

**COLORADO CANYONS NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA**  
**Mack Ridge Working Group Meeting Minutes**  
**August 5, 2002**

Attendees:

Robert Anthony	Karen Enenkel	Neal McKinstry
Sue Benjamin	Dawn Folks	Lovell Sasser
Nadja Brozina	Kevin Foote	Julie Stotler

**Greetings and Introductions**

Kevin Foote opened the meeting.

**Working Group Discussions**

A prioritized list of issues was discussed regarding the Mack Ridge area (see attached).

The Working Group discussed designating the area as “quiet use” only, excluding all motorized use excepting private landowners, permittees and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) staff. Access by motorized vehicle is currently allowed but not encouraged. Representatives of the mountain biking community have expressed an interest in officially designating the area as non-motorized.

The next item of discussion was the ability to control commercial use on Mack Ridge trails. The concerns are whether horse events can be held there, and whether group size limits apply for either commercial or private groups. Universal concern was expressed over the area’s use for any major competitive event.

The group asked the BLM to provide any available data reflecting both numbers of people and types of recreational use.

Returning to the subject of non-motorized travel, Kevin would like to see all motorized use prohibited but is aware this may not be possible on all trails. While Kevin admits that the Crow Bottom road is likely to remain open, other trails are dead-ends or unsafe for multiple use, justifying closure to non-motorized use, in his opinion.

The group asked if the BLM has, or knows where to access, any data on trail impacts related to specific activities. Jim Cooper, BLM Transportation Planner, said such data is available, and he would locate it for the group.

The discussion switched to education, and the group efforts spent earlier in the year rating trails. Education can play a large role in managing recreation. Recreational opportunities can be marketed three ways—by emphasizing, allowing, or prohibiting. If a use, such as horseback riding, is allowed but not emphasized (or advertised), the trail may not need to be closed to that specific user group.

Action Items:

- Data on activity impact
- Distribute last two meetings' minutes to the group
- Upcoming surveys and their status
- Number of users, and types of use in Mack Ridge area

The next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2002, 5:00 p.m., at the BLM Conference Room. The meeting was adjourned.

**MACK RIDGE WORKING GROUP  
FINAL PRIORITY LIST**

1. Build a trailhead for Lion's Loop at the I-70 Frontage Road.
2. Vault Toilets at Mack Ridge (eventually all) Trailhead.
3. Designate area for non-motorized travel only (except for BLM administrative use, private land owner access, permittees).
4. Horse trailer parking at new Lion's Loop Trailhead.
5. Create a single-track trail adjacent to the I-70 Frontage Road, from Mack Ridge Trailhead to Kokopelli Trailhead.
6. Commercial/Permit Use.
7. Acquire state-owned land between the National Conservation Area (NCA) and I-70.
8. Create Midway Trail between Mary's Loop and Moore Fun Trail for equestrian use, as an alternative to Mary's Loop single track.
9. Gate the I-70 Frontage Road, from Lion's Loop Trailhead to Mary's Loop Trailhead.
10. Build a footpath, from east of Lion's Loop Trailhead up to drainage, to meet Moore Fun Trail—hiking only designation.